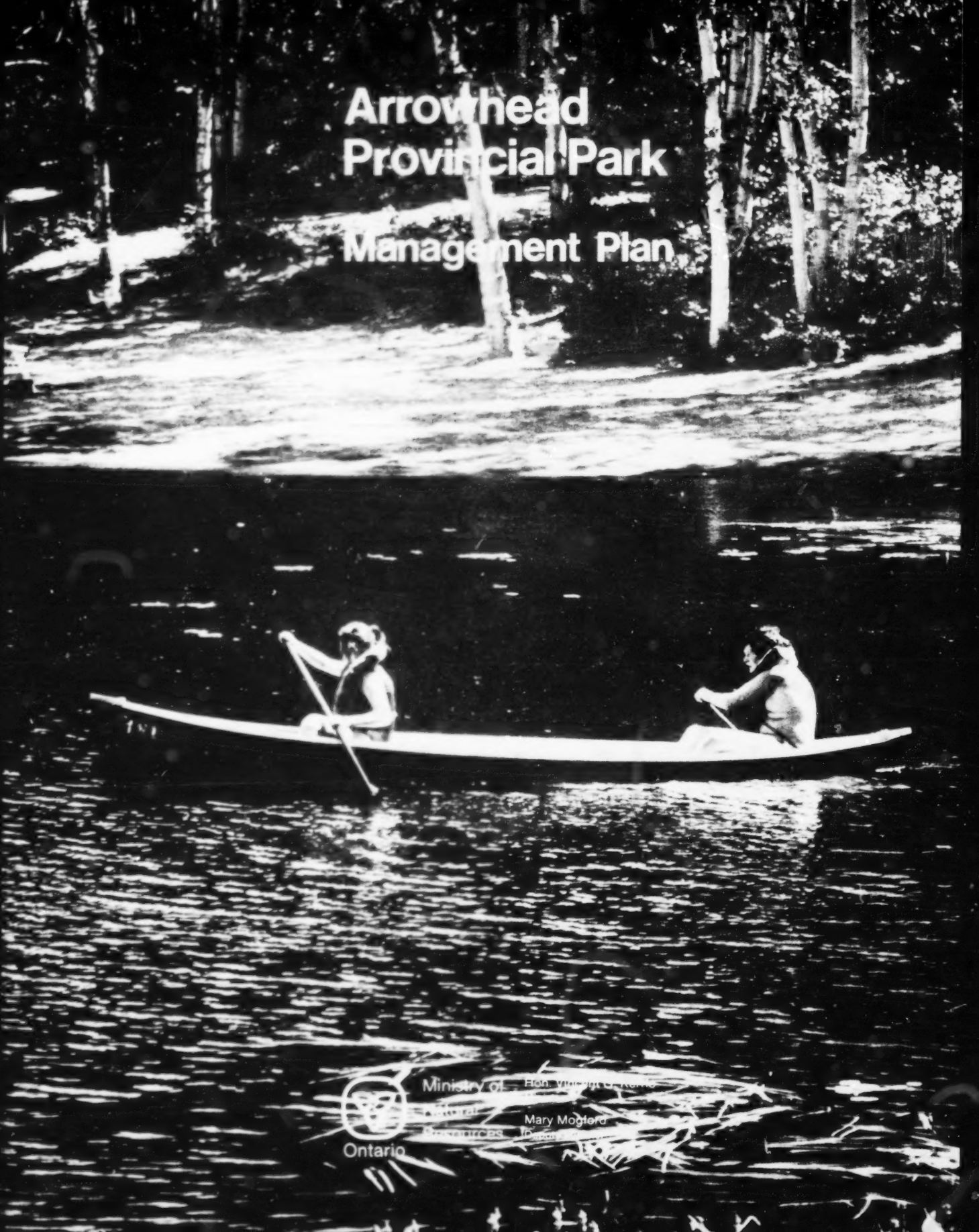
Arrowhead Provincial Park

Management Plan



Ontario

Ministry of

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio

Mary Mogford

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PARK MANAGEMENT PLANNING SERIES

ARROWHEAD PROVINCIAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

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APPROVAL STATEMENT

Arrowhead Provincial Park was established in 1966 to provide outstanding outdoor recreation opportunities in the popular Muskoka Tourist area. However, since then the Park's role has expanded. Not only does Arrowhead function as a perimeter park as identified in the Algonquin Provincial Park Management Plan but also provides protection for provincially significant earth and life science features found within the Park's boundaries.

"We are pleased to approve the Arrowhead Provincial Park Management Plan, as official policy for the management and development of this park. The plan reflects this Ministry's intent to protect natural and cultural features of Arrowhead Park and maintain and develop high quality opportunities for outdoor recreation and heritage appreciation for both residents of Ontario and visitors to the Province."

R. M. Christie
Regional Director
Algonquin Region

Norm R. Richards
Director, Parks and
Recreational Areas Branch

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Arrowhead Provincial Park is located in the District Municipality of Muskoka on Highway 11, 8 kilometres north of Huntsville (Figure 1). The Park is approximately 1250 hectares in size and contains two lakes. Its southern boundary abuts the north shore of the East River which has it's headwaters in Algonquin Park.

For summer visitors, the Park offers 389 campsites in three campgrounds of which 115 are electrified. Each campground has a central comfort station, and a number of vault privies. As well, the Park has a day use area with beaches and picnic facilities, an interesting trail network, and a visitor services program which utilizes a 350 seat amphitheatre (Figure 2). Because of its proximity to Huntsville and the varied terrain and reliable snow cover, Arrowhead is a popular centre for both summer and winter recreation. It offers 21 kilometres of cross-country ski trails, skating and a toboggan/tubing hill (Figure 3).

Arrowhead is located 48 kilometres west of Algonquin Park and has been designated as a perimeter park in the Algonquin Provincial Park Master Plan. In its function as a perimeter park, Arrowhead will accommodate three types of visitors: those on vacation routes which include Algonquin Park; campers who have Algonquin Park as a destination, but may have to use a perimeter park as a waiting place; and those who use a perimeter park as a home base and frequent Algonquin on a daily basis. Arrowhead will provide "threshold" recreational experiences, the intended purpose of which is to attract visitors who subsequently may broaden their experience in Algonquin Park.

Arrowhead Park is situated on what is known as the southern portion of the Canadian Shield. The topography of the Park and surrounding area generally typifies this portion of the shield, with rough terrain, precipitous slopes, thin soils, bedrock outcrops, scattered lakes, poorly drained areas and beaver ponds.

The Park also contains unusual geological features which are provincially and regionally significant, with an equally important series of habitats and containing several species of plants and reptiles. The surficial geological features are the most indicative, with the provincially significant exposed glacial deltaic sand deposits and the regionally significant oxbow characteristics of the East River being the standard examples.

Ecologically, the Park is situated in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Mixed Forest Zone. The main species are hard maple, yellow birch, poplar, beech, white pine, hemlock, balsam and spruce.

Arrowhead Park is located in the Haliburton slopes climatic area. Precipitation is evenly distributed throughout the year with the area on record as one of the heaviest snowfall areas in the Province. It can be concluded that the climate is most suitable for year-round outdoor activities.

Abandoned farm fields and remnants of buildings in the Park reflect homesteading in the 1870's and 1880's. The area has been cut over a number of times from that time until the 1930's.

2.0 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Arrowhead Provincial Park has developed into a park which satisfies special needs of its visitors for camping and day use. However problems that exist within the Park are basically the result of intensive year-round use of the small park area.

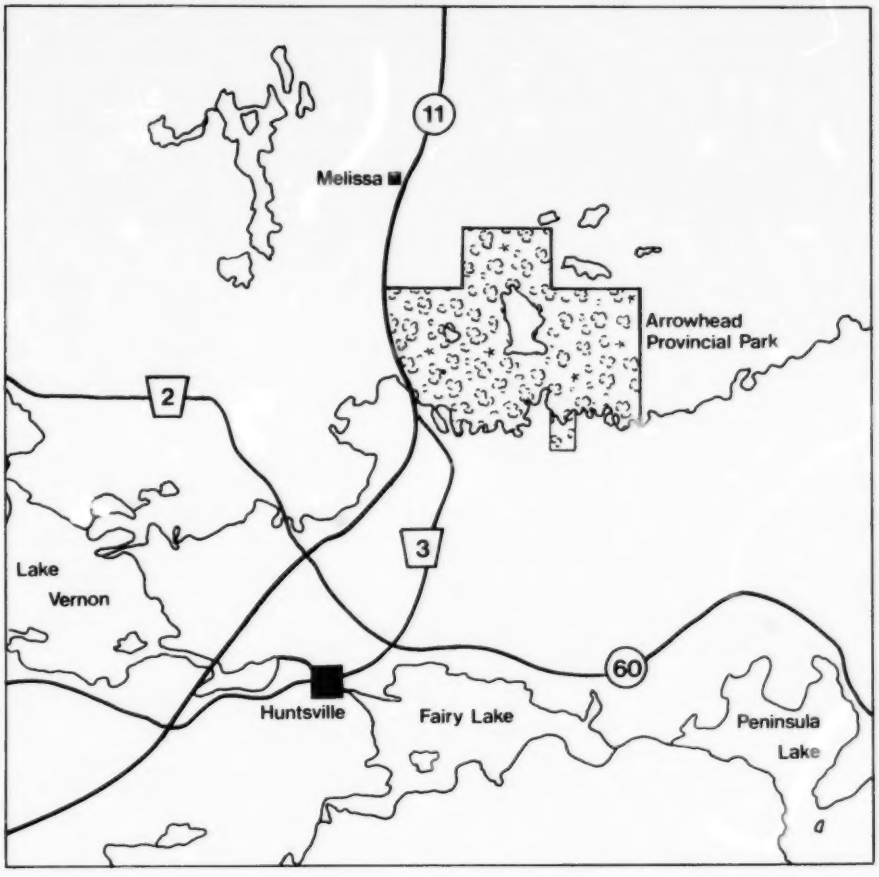
There are no shower facilities in the Park and many of the vault toilets are not accompanied by wash basins and vanities. The lack of such facilities may be the prime reason for the general trend of shorter average stays (2.4 days, 1983-84).

The campground permit office is too small and too far removed to efficiently handle the Park's three campgrounds.

To enable the Visitor Services Program to better serve park visitors, upgrading of

Figure 1

REGIONAL CONTEXT



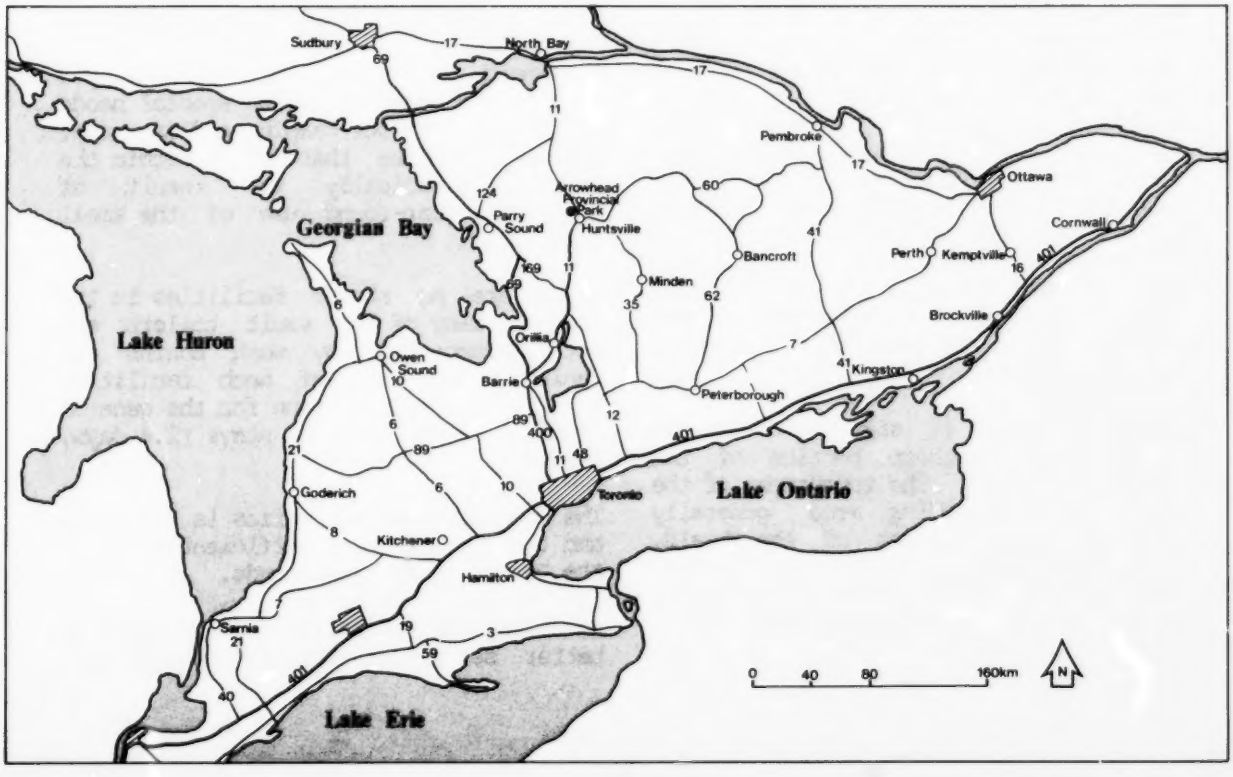


Figure 2

EXISTING DEVELOPMENT (summer)

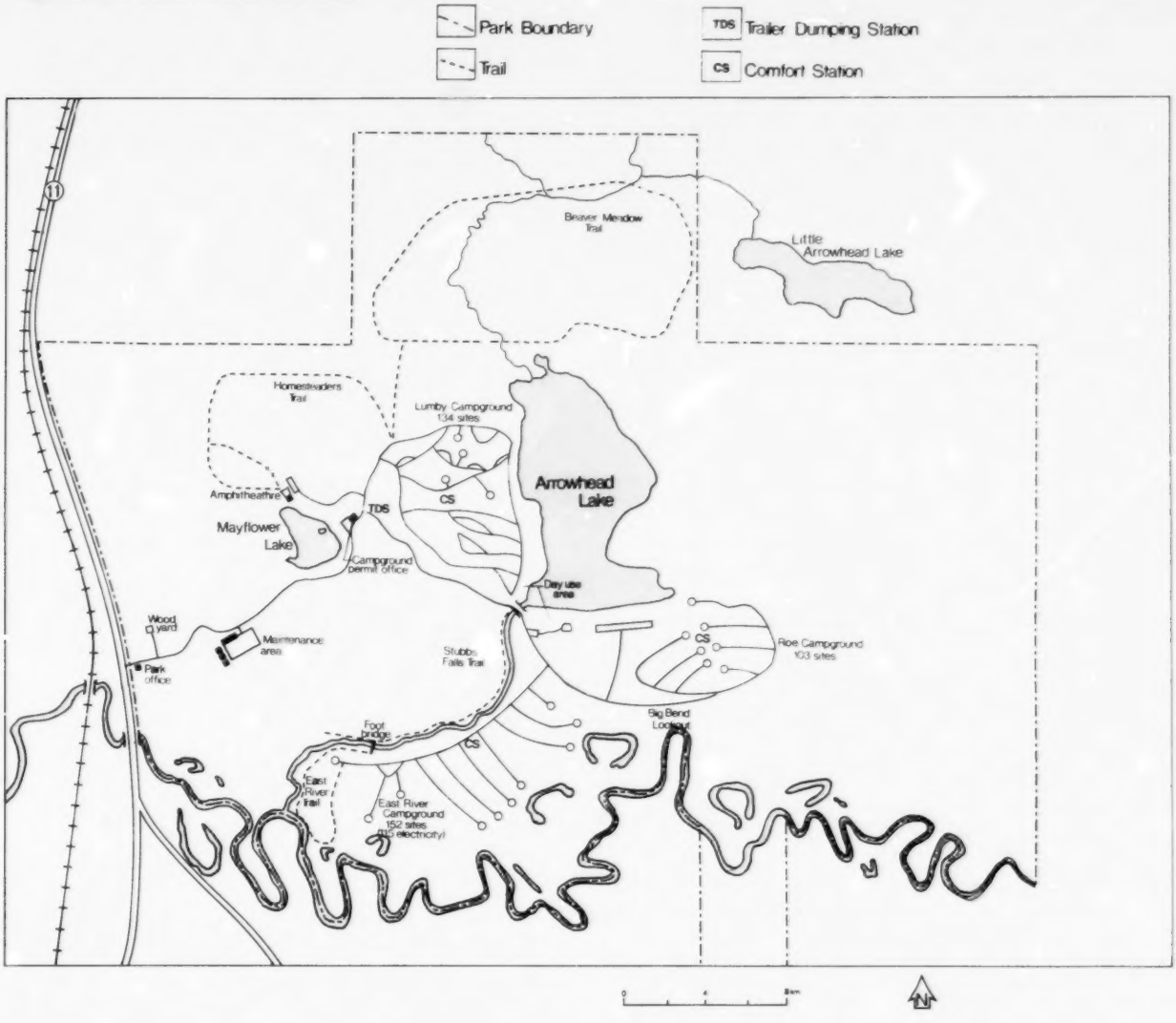
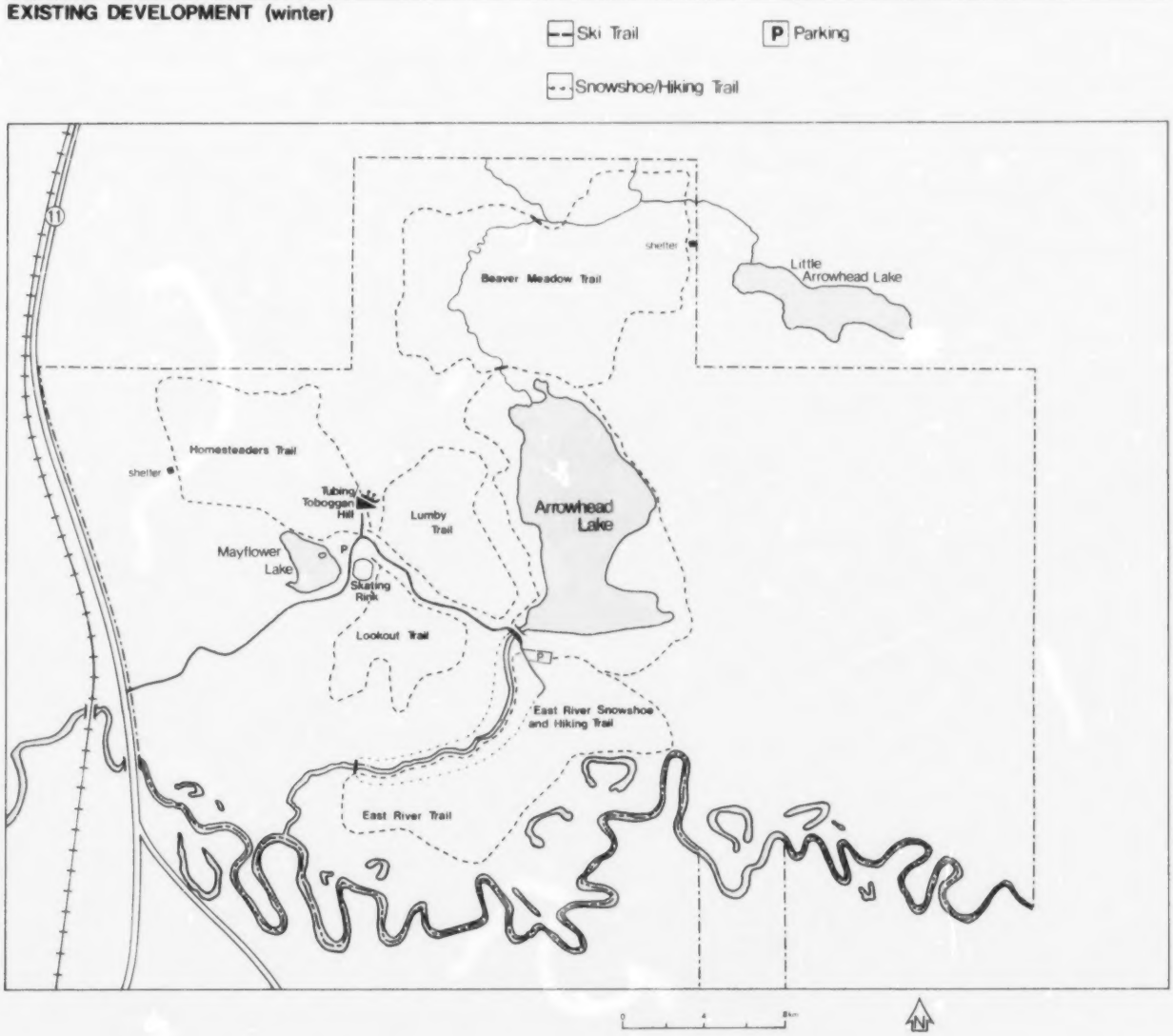


Figure 3

EXISTING DEVELOPMENT (winter)



some facilities and the addition of others are necessary.

Arrowhead Park's close proximity to Huntsville and Bracebridge has created a need for a group campground to accommodate school groups, church groups, clubs and scouting, etc.

Major redevelopment of the entrance complex and main campground road is necessary to solve traffic problems and seasonal driving conditions. The Park access road between Lumby Campground and the bridge crossing Little Arrowhead River has two steep hills creating both maintenance and driving problems during the winter operating season.

Minor development of existing campgrounds, especially Lumby, is necessary to solve traffic flow and camper orientation problems.

3.0 CLASSIFICATION

Arrowhead is classified as a Natural Environment Park in recognition of its provincially and regionally significant landforms and associated plant communities, as well as its capability to provide a diversity of outdoor recreation activities in an attractive natural setting.

4.0 PARK GOAL

The goal of Arrowhead Park is to maintain and manage outstanding recreational landscapes, representative natural features and historical resources and provide high quality recreational and educational experiences.

5.0 PARK OBJECTIVES

5.1 Protection

To protect the provincially significant natural environment of Arrowhead Provincial Park incorporating natural, and cultural features.

The natural environment of Arrowhead incorporates provincially significant earth and life sciences features, and a regionally significant historical site. By ways of development and management strategies, these values such as Big Bend bluffs, oxbows and river flood plain and the Lunt homestead will be protected by appropriate zoning and management, and will be emphasized in the visitor services program.

5.2 Recreation

To provide day use opportunities in areas of outstanding recreational potential associated with the natural environment of the Park. To provide facility-based camping opportunities in the natural environment of the Park associated with areas of outstanding recreational potential.

Arrowhead offers a diverse range of day use opportunities. Winter facilities include a skating rink, toboggan and tubing hill and an extensive network of cross-country ski trails designed to emphasize the natural beauty of the Park's landscape. Summer facilities include bathing beaches, an extensive day use hiking trail system, picnic area, and campgrounds which offer a variety of camping experiences. Recreation programs may be developed to teach canoeing and cross-country skiing skills. Arrowhead will offer an annual total of 21,000 swimming opportunities, 12,000 picnicking opportunities and 84,000 camping opportunities, contributing to the achievement of provincial park targets in Bracebridge District.

5.3 Heritage Appreciation

To provide opportunities for unstructured individual exploration and appreciation of the natural environment heritage of Arrowhead.

To provide opportunities for the exploration and appreciation of Arrowhead's natural and cultural environments through interpretation and education based on the character and significance of the Park.

Arrowhead offers six self-guiding interpretive trails which will provide unstructured opportunities for visitors to learn about the significant natural and cultural features of the Park. The visitor services program will provide information on significant features of the Park to visitors by means of conducted hikes, audio-visual presentations, leaflets and other means.

5.4 Tourism

> To provide Ontario residents and out-of-province visitors with opportunities to discover and experience the distinctive region of the park and its environs.

Arrowhead will provide day use and camping opportunities to travellers in Ontario and destination camping opportunities to travellers attracted from considerable distances.

6.0 PARK BOUNDARY

In order to create a viable park unit, a number of parcels have been acquired, increasing the size of the Park from 963 hectares to 1,250 hectares (Figure 2). These additions have been approved and are presently (1986) in the process of being put into regulation under the Provincial Parks Act.

Should the three lots incorporating Little Arrowhead Lake (Figure 4) become for sale, the Ministry will seriously consider its purchase. This extension will facilitate management and significantly enhance the Park's recreational potential and achieve its protection and recreation objectives. Such facilities as walk-in campsites and ski trails will be considered for this property.

If these three lots are purchased, the adjoining Crown lot (Lot 28, Concession IX) will be added as a buffer to the Park's east boundary as well as development about Little Arrowhead Lake.

7.0 ZONING

Four zones have been designated to guide the management of Arrowhead: development; natural environment; nature reserve; and historical (Figure 5).

7.1 Development Zone (216 ha)

This zone includes three existing campgrounds (Lumby, Roe and East River), a proposed group camping area, day use areas and administration facilities. All intensive facility development will be confined to this zone.

7.2 Natural Environment Zone (747.5 ha)

This zone will provide a sufficient land base for extensive recreational activities and a buffer for the development and nature reserve zones.

7.3 Nature Reserve Zones (277.5 ha)

Four nature reserve zones have been designated to protect natural features for their intrinsic values, interpretation and scientific study (Figure 5).

- NR1 - Riparian Environments and Communities - The East River flood plain contains 60 hectares of meandering features atypical of the Canadian Shield and supports an interesting and diverse assemblage of plant communities and associated wildlife viewing opportunities.

  Big Bend bluffs, located at the most northern 'bow' of the East River within the Park (Figure 4), is composed of large sand bluffs which are the best regional representation of deltas formed by glacial Lake Algonquin. This small area (2 hectares) is of considerable scientific value and has been studied by University of Waterloo. The slow erosion of the bluffs by the East River provides an interesting example of the response by primarily herbaceous plants to a constantly changing substrate. The bluffs are very sensitive to human disturbance which accelerates the erosion process. This area is a prominent asset to the Park and will be treated with special attention. No development will be allowed for the sole purpose of

Figure 4

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

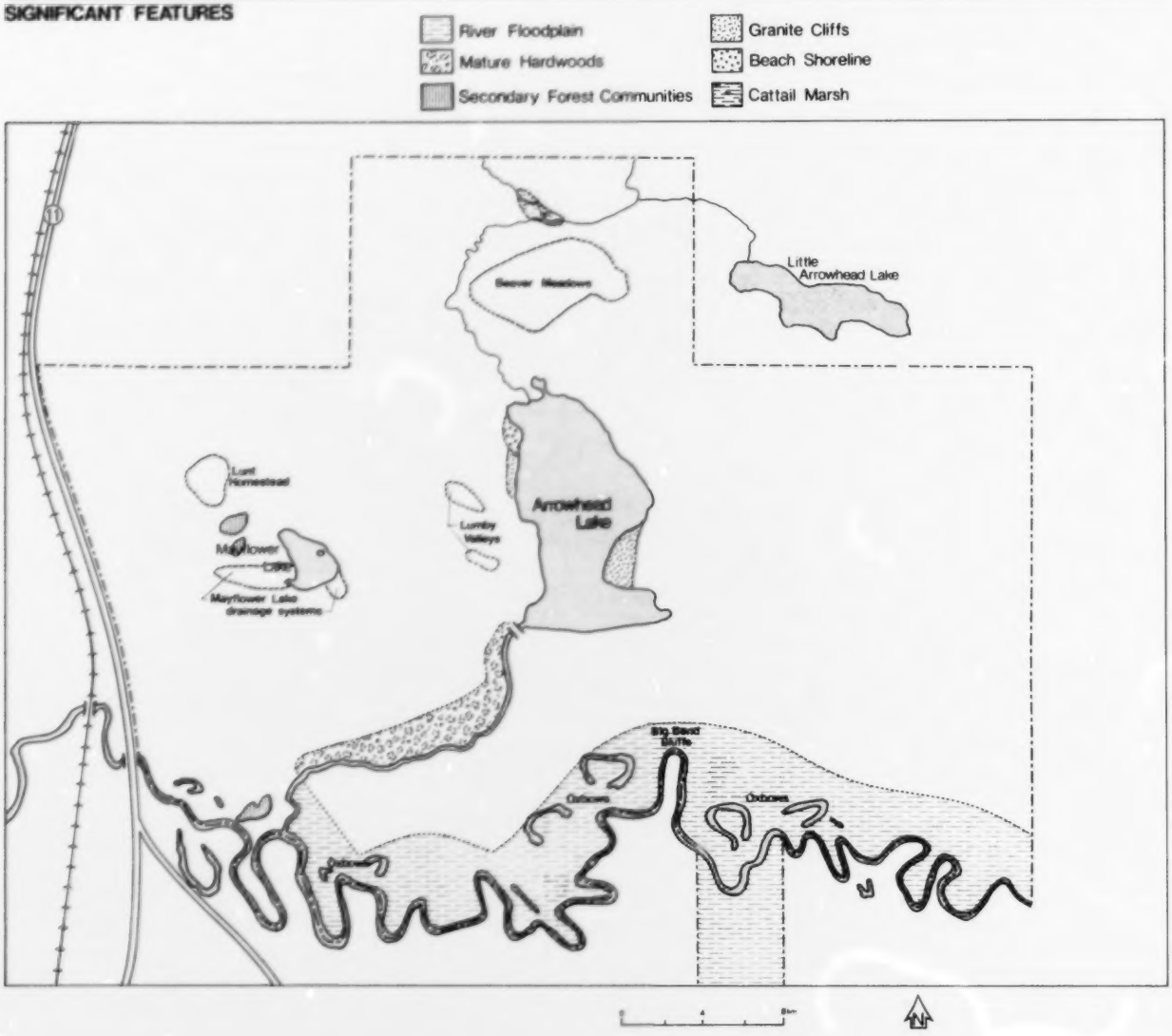
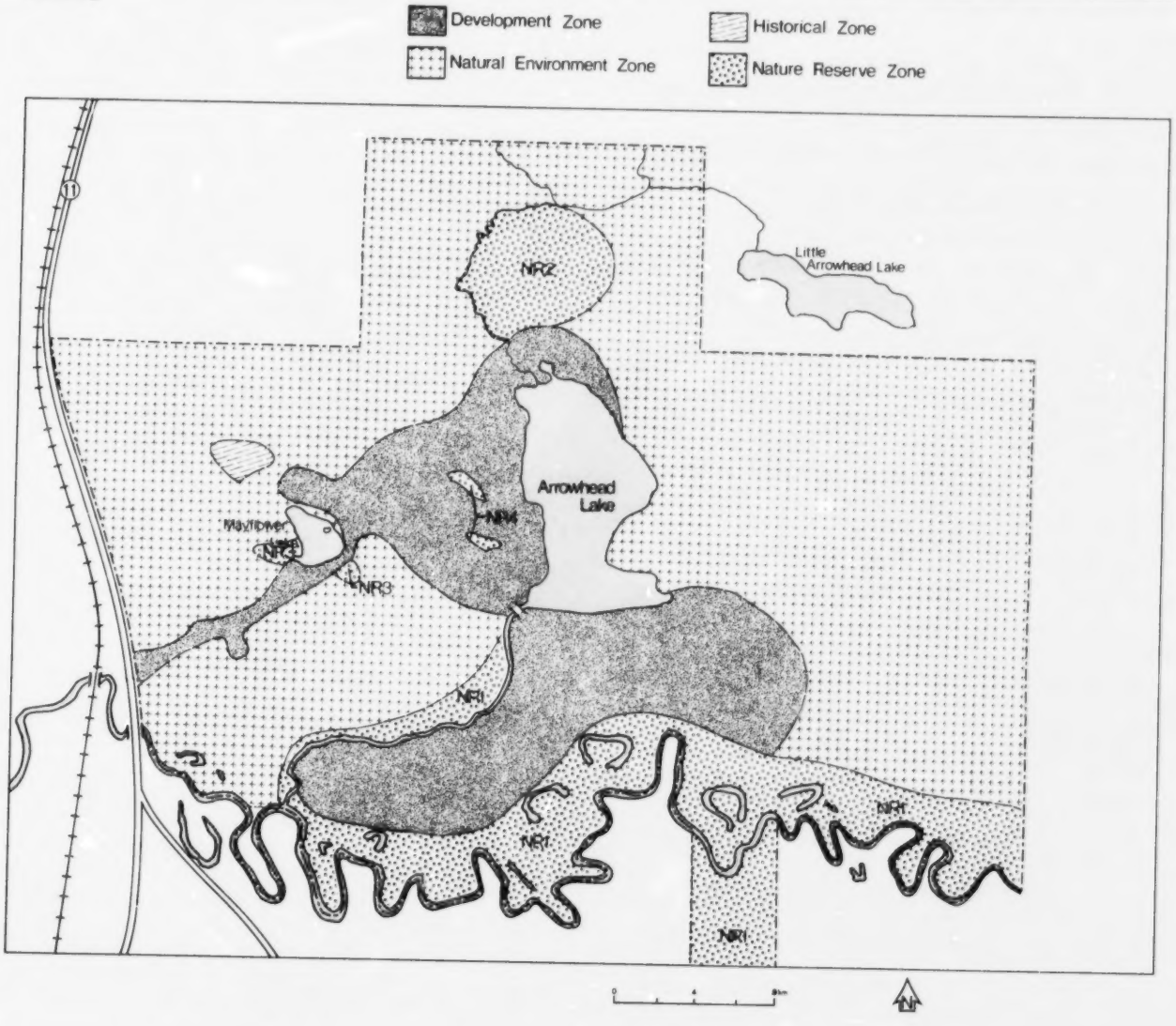


Figure 5

ZONING



protecting this area's significant features.

Mature hardwood stands established on the northwest bank of the Little East River (Figure 4) consist of a regionally significant and relatively stable climax community which is the oldest in the Park and supports exceptionally rich flora including many southern species. It has high interpretive value.

- NR2 - Beaver Meadows - This 210 hectare wetland supports an unusual diversity of plant communities and animal habitat representative of the region (Figure 4). The beaver meadow area consists of a sphagnum bog and cattail marsh and is one of the best wildlife and bird watching areas in the Park. This zone has excellent potential for an interpretive trail.

- NR3 - Mayflower Lake Drainage Systems - This small watershed (4 hectares) supports wetland habitats and breeding areas for reptiles and amphibians including rare species such as the pickeral frog and the regionally uncommon northern two-lined salamander. This zone is extremely sensitive to disturbance and should be subjected to low intensity interpretation use.

- NR4 - Lumby Valleys - These depressions consist of two ravines (3.5 hectares) where moist lowland habitat support a forest dominated by yellow birch, balsam fir and a lush herbaceous growth of violets, ferns and mosses. It is representative of a lowland forest and demonstrates the dramatic effort of topography and microclimate. The ravines should remain undisturbed and be subject only to low intensity interpretation use.

Nature Reserves 3 and 4 would be difficult to locate due to their small size. These areas will be surveyed and flagged, promoting public awareness of these sensitive areas. Nature Reserves 1 and 2 incorporate natural features to facilitate ground location. Signage and/or a park leaflet will provide ample information promoting the sensitivity of these areas.

7.4 Historical Zone (9.0 ha)

This zone contains features of historical botanical interest associated with the Lunt farmstead, cira 1880-1920. The old foundations, implements, stone walls and remaining cultivars such as rhubarb, apple and rye are representative of the historical segment, "Government Sponsored Settlement of the Shield Area in Muskoka-Parry Sound Area" as described in The Topical Organization of Ontario History. The site has good interpretive value and is located on the Homesteaders trail.

8.0 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The Park's natural and cultural resources will be managed in accordance with the general planning and management policies for Natural Environment class parks. Specific direction, where needed to meet the special requirement of Arrowhead is presented below under a series of headings, each representing one component of the resource base. Although the policies are presented in separate categories, all subsequent planning and management will recognize the need to integrate these components since they are interrelated.

8.1 Vegetation

All vegetation management will be undertaken solely in support of objectives related to visitor safety, aesthetics and perpetuation of the natural and cultural values of Arrowhead. In the event that standing trees are to be cut during development or vegetation management, the Park Superintendent will supervise cutting operations and all wood will, where possible, be used for park purposes such as firewood, posts and saw logs. Such may lead to savings in park operating costs but it should be remembered that the main purpose of management prescriptions will be to maintain or create a particular quality of vegetation and not generate revenue.

A vegetation management plan is required. The plan will meet the diverse management needs specific to the Park and to provide direction to park staff. The plan will be prepared by the Park Superintendent in

conjunction with other Ministry staff and outside experts as required and in consideration of the following prescriptions for each zone as outlined below.

In the development zone, forest rehabilitation and reforestation will be undertaken 1) to create a more suitable buffer between campsites, 2) to rehabilitate areas devoid of natural regeneration growth, 3) to selectively remove diseased or dying poplar, and 4) to maintain vegetation cover in the beach and day use areas in an open park-like setting with tall trees, little understory and a scattering of open areas.

In the natural environment zone natural succession will progress unimpeded. Where safety hazards along trails exist, potentially dangerous trees will be removed in association with 'brushing' operations and routine trail maintenance.

In the historical zone the existing open field pattern will be maintained for interpretive purposes and consideration will be given to removing young saplings established on some previously unwooded areas. Research will be undertaken to determine the species composition of the surrounding forest at the time of settlement and the forest will be managed to approximate those conditions.

In nature reserve zones, natural succession will be allowed to progress unimpeded. In the beaver meadow and Mayflower Lake drainage system, existing seasonal water levels will be monitored to perpetuate existing vegetation patterns.

8.2 Wildlife

A "no hunting" policy will be continued.

Trapping to control beaver populations will be permitted under Ministry supervision to maintain existing water levels and perpetuate life science features in the Beaver Meadows and the Mayflower Lake Drainage System.

8.3 Fisheries

The put-and-take brook and rainbow trout fishery in Mayflower Lake will be continued.

A fisheries management plan will be prepared to: 1) ascertain if the stocking program for Mayflower Lake can be intensified, 2) to provide better angling opportunities on Arrowhead Lake via natural stocking, and 3) to guide development of a self-supporting brook trout fishery on Little Arrowhead Lake when it is incorporated within the Park.

Ice fishing is permitted in both lakes during the brook trout fishing season. It is a popular fishery, well used by park visitors.

No fishing huts or fires will be allowed on the ice.

8.4 Aggregate Resources

The existing sand pit within Roe Campground will be closed and rehabilitated. When sand is required for maintenance and capital improvements, it will be brought in from an external source.

8.5 Fires

Fires in all zones will be detected and suppressed through the use of standard methods.

8.6 Insect and Disease

Measures to control insects and disease will be permitted in all zones where aesthetic or natural values of the Park are threatened. Where control is desirable and feasible, it will be directed as narrowly as possible to the specific threat to minimize impact on other elements of the park environment. If required, control measures will be prescribed in the vegetation management plan.

9.0 VISITOR SERVICES

Arrowhead Provincial Park will offer a seasonal level of visitor services programing which will include the three components of visitor services: information, interpretation and outdoor recreation. The Park will be operated in accordance with the current operating plan.

9.1 Public Information

Information concerning park resources, management, facilities and programs, and nearby points of interest will be available at key points throughout the Park. Information will consist of a park leaflet, newsletter, and special publications as required.

The park staff will continually strive to make a visitor's stay as enjoyable as possible. This involves ongoing orientation and education of all park staff to relevant and current information about the Park, its surroundings and ways to enhance visitor satisfaction and understanding.

The visitor services program will provide visitors with an opportunity to gain an understanding and awareness of, and an appreciation for Arrowhead, its objectives, policies, and its natural cultural and historical resources. This will be achieved through policies for the following components of a visitor services program.

9.2 Interpretation

The interpretive program will seek to create a greater understanding of the natural and cultural values of the Park and will focus on the following themes: geology (delta formation and shoreline features of glacial Lake Algonquin; East River floodplain), vegetation (beaver meadow; hardwood forest community; Mayflower Lake Drainage System), and historical (South Shield Agriculture, Lunt farmstead).

The interpretive program will be delivered at the proposed visitor centre where exhibits, demonstrations, audio-visual shows will be available. Facilities at the centre will be made available to the Muskoka Board of Education for nature study and recreational use. The staff of Arrowhead will continue to provide, on request, assistance to classroom teachers in charge of visiting school groups. Park staff will also present evening programs at the amphitheatre. Trail guides will be developed for the existing system of five walking trails as well as a new loop to be developed near the Big East River in the southeast corner of the Park (Figure 6). Some upgrading of the Homesteaders Trail and the guide book will be undertaken to improve interpretation of the Lunt farmstead and pioneer life.

Arrowhead Park's heritage resources will be shared with Pioneer Village in Huntsville to establish a greater awareness of pioneer life and to complement interpretation of both locations. Special events and demonstrations by the Village's staff will be some of the shared programs and promotions presented depicting the lifestyles of settlement between 1860 and 1910.

9.3 Recreation

Outdoor recreation programing will focus on year-round activities. Park staff will endeavour to inform visitors on recreational opportunities in the Park and its environs. When staff, volunteers and recreation clubs skilled in canoeing and cross-country skiing are available, practical introductory courses emphasizing safety and technique in these activities will be offered.

9.4 Research

Research will be conducted by visitor services and other staff into the natural, cultural, and historical values of the Park. Recreation research may also be undertaken to evaluate the suitability of present programs, the satisfaction of the park visitors and visitor activity patterns.

9.5 Marketing

A marketing plan to attract more visitors to Arrowhead Park throughout its operating seasons will be prepared with the following objectives: to hold present clientele (average length of stay 2.4 days, down 0.7 since 1979); to attract day users staying at local commercial establishments or using local services; to attract day users from local urban centres and private cottages; to attract campers and day users during low use periods in the mid-week (July-August occupancy rate 64 percent lowest in 10 years) and shoulder seasons; to increase involvement with the commercial sector by encouraging park users to use and take advantage of local tourist services and

attractions, and generally stimulate interaction between the Park and the private tourist and commercial sector in the vicinity.

Closeness to residence is the major reason for visiting the Park although there is a drop in those from Muskoka County.

Camper use has largely shifted from equal numbers of weekend and vacation visitors to almost exclusively vacationers. Being close to home or else a convenient stop seems to be decreasing in importance.

The most frequent camper activities has become its non-aquatic recreation and facilities. Participation in picnicking, canoeing, hiking, biking, relaxation, visiting viewpoints and displays has increased. Participation in fishing is down sharply. Swimming, casual play, guided walks, photography and staff presentations are also down.

Winter day use statistics at Arrowhead Park tabulated for the past 8 years reveal a steady increase in day use until the 1984-85 season where there is a sharp decrease, probably due to a season of constantly poor snow conditions.

During the winter of 1981-82, 16,806 people visited Arrowhead, of which 88 percent were cross-country skiers. In the 1984-85 season an estimated 12,565 people visited the Park of which 57 percent were cross-country skiers, down 31 percent. this is probably due to the introduction of other winter activities.

The three most popular activities were cross-country skiing (57.1 percent), tobogganing (13.7 percent) and photography (10.1 percent). Other preferred activities included skating (8.1 percent) nature study (7.1 percent) and showshoeing (2.0 percent).

The day use survey indicated 21.1 percent of visitors were Muskoka residents. People from Metro Toronto and Barrie area accounted for 31.3 percent.

In 1979 summer visitor expenditures in the vicinity of Arrowhead Provincial Park (within 40 kilometres of the Park) totalled $642,328. The total output generated by all visitor expenditures associated with Arrowhead amounted to $2,286,628., third in Algonquin Region (succeeding Algonquin Provincial Park and Killbear Provincial Park) and twelfth provincially.

Arrowhead endured as the Regional premier winter day use park with total expenditures within 40 kilometres of the Park exceeding $671,211., contributing to a healthy Muskoka tourist economy.

The majority of campers and summer day use surveyed in 1982 wish the Park to be left as is. Other major recommendations include improving sanitation/washrooms, picnic area, and beach and boating facilities.

The 1985 statistical winter day use survey of Arrowhead Park expressed improvement in parking lot size (15 percent), more variety (9.5 percent) and supplemental groomed trails (6.5 percent). Over 24 percent of the visitors expressed to leave the Park as is. Generally, 85.3 percent were very satisfied with their visit to Arrowhead Park.

10.0 DEVELOPMENT

Development will proceed in accordance with Figures 6 and 7 and the following guidelines. In all instances, detailed site plans will be completed and approved in advance of rehabilitation of existing facilities or the development of new facilities. Development projects will be phased according to the Implementation Strategy (Section 11.0) as needed and funding permits. The requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act will be adhered to.

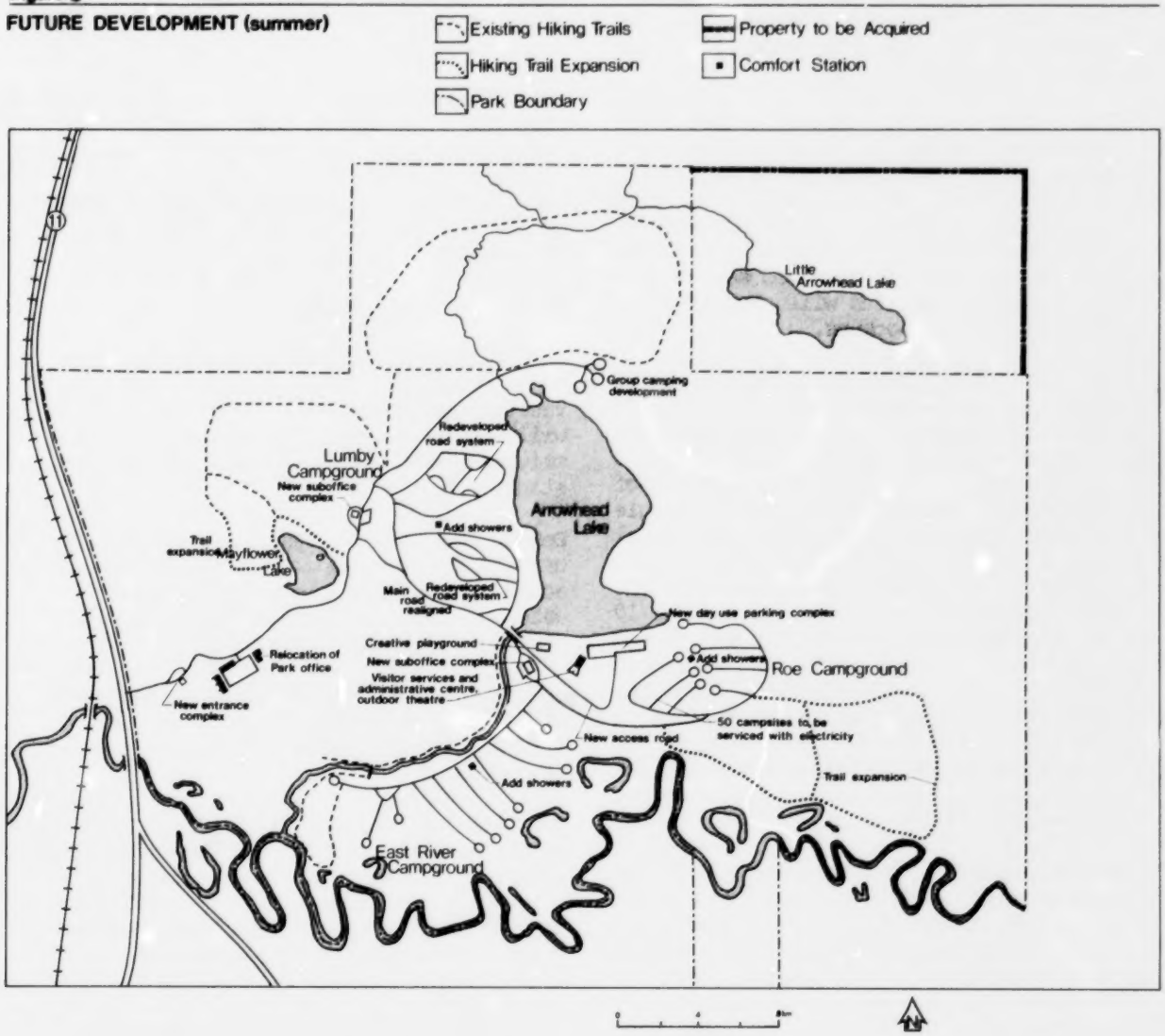
10.1 Campgrounds

At full development the Park will offer approximately 400 campsites distributed among three campgrounds, a group camping area, and 10 to 15 hike-in sites. The Lumby Campground will undergo major redevelopment. Only minor changes are proposed for the Roe and East River Campgrounds.

The present 152 campsites in the East River Campground will be retained

Figure 6

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT (summer)



including 115 sites with electric hook-ups. The only changes will be rehabilitation of the sand pit at the end of Road 7.

Roe Campground's present number of campsites (101) will be maintained. A minor road realignment will be made to relieve the present traffic flow congestion problem at the entrance to the campground. Because of the popularity and the extended season into the fall 50 campsites will be serviced with electrical hookups.

In the Lumby Campground, redevelopment will take place to correct a confusing maze of roads now in existence. The campground shall be redesigned in such a way to create two or three cells of campsites, each linked by a single access road. Approximately the equal amount of campsites (134) should exist after redevelopment. Realignment of the main campground road will eliminate 10 to 15 campsites at the south end of the campground. These will be relocated during the redevelopment program. Directional signs indicating campsite numbers and traffic orientation will be located at major intersections in the campground to alleviate camper confusion.

A group camping area separate from other campgrounds will be located at the northeast corner of Arrowhead Lake, with three group campsite units large enough to accommodate 25 to 30 persons each. A parking lot for each unit will provide parking for eight cars or one bus. Vault toilets with vanities will be strategically located to service these campsites.

The existing wood yard will remain in its present location adjacent to the park office.

10.2 Day Use Areas

The Park will continue to have two day use areas (Mayflower and Arrowhead Lakes day use areas). Only the Arrowhead Lake day use area will undergo major changes.

This day use area will be redeveloped to become the focus of park activities. It will be the new location for a visitor services and administrative centre, outdoor theatre, skating rink, tubing hill, creative playground and the starting point for the cross-country ski trail network.

Day visitors will be directed to this area via a new access road existing off the park's main road just east of the Little East River bridge (Figure 6). A new parking lot complex will be created out of the existing large parking lot located south of Arrowhead Lake.

10.3 Service Systems

All of the vault privies will be upgraded to provide flush-o-matic toilets, vanities and electrical lighting. This will occur when the existing vault privies reach the time of replacement stage.

Demand hot water systems supplied by gravity feed to campgrounds will also be added where possible to relieve the hot water demand on the three comfort station's septic systems.

Comfort stations in the three campgrounds will be modified to provide shower stalls. The tile beds will be enlarged, if necessary.

The trailer sanitary station will remain in its present location for now. If its location proves unsuitable, it will be relocated nearer to Highway #11 to provide better access for campers and travellers requiring such a service.

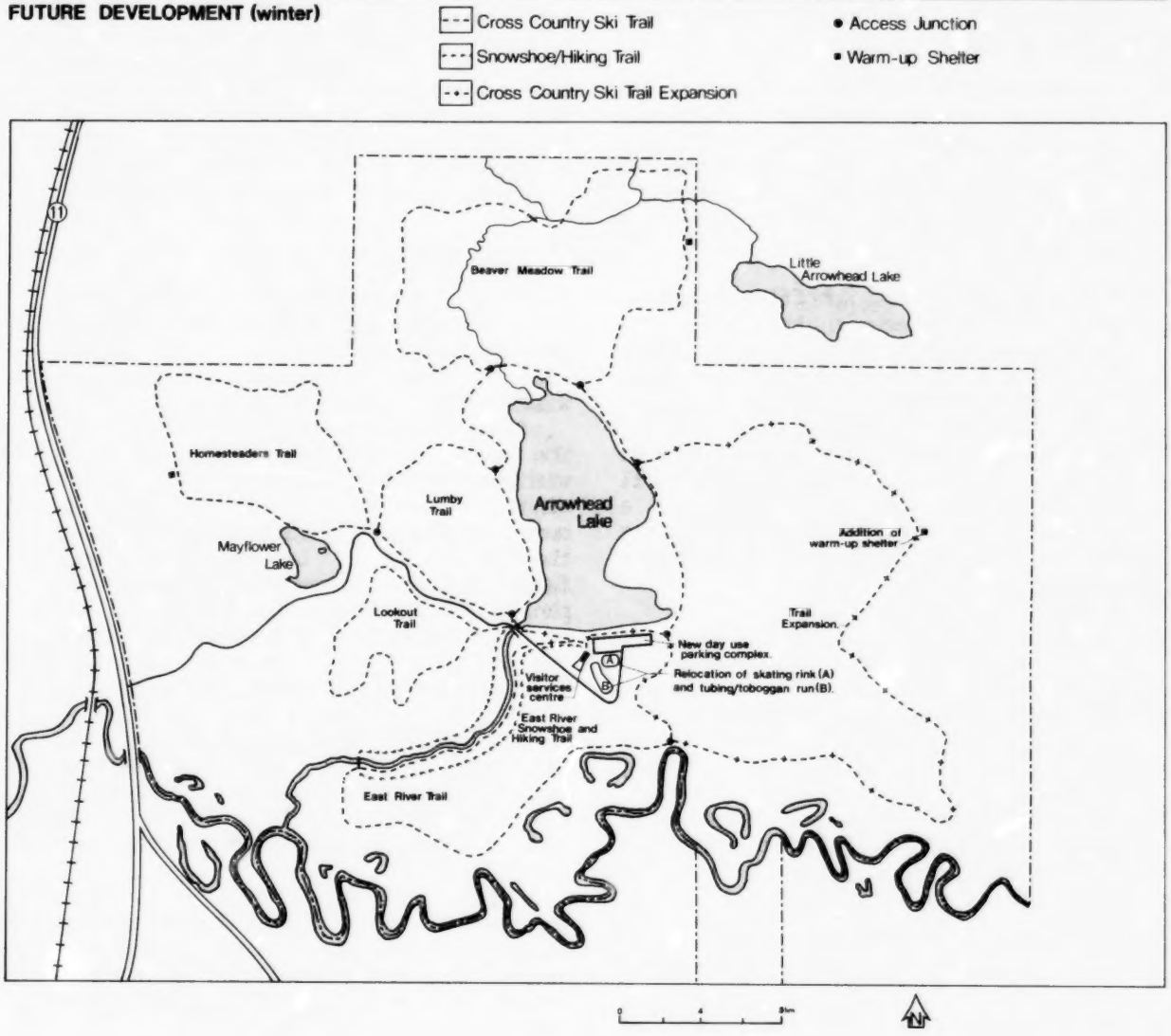
10.4 Vehicular Circulation Systems and Control

Vehicular circulation within the Park will be controlled at three points. The main entrance office, monitoring all vehicles arriving and leaving the Park, and the campground subcontrol offices, controlling vehicles entering the campgrounds (Figure 6).

A new entrance complex will be located in the general area of the existing entrance. However,
will be relocated further into the Park relieving traffic back-up onto Highway 11. The entrance complex will contain proper turning circles, with access and parking for the campground sub-office. The function of the entrance complex will not differ from what occurs now (control

Figure 7

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT (winter)



access to the Park, sell day use permits and direct campers to campground office).

The existing Park office will be removed from its present location and situated in the maintenance area, therefore alleviating the problem of having the Park Office outside the main entrance gate. The office will function as a maintenance, and reservation centre.

Two new campground suboffice complexes will be constructed in the Park, one located east of Little East River bridge controlling traffic to Roe and East River Campgrounds and other located along the existing access road to Lumby Campground controlling traffic into Lumby. Each entrance complex will consist of a type A-1C building, a bypass lane, a parking lot with spaces for 15 cars and 3 R/V's and appropriate turning circles.

A realignment of the main campground road is necessary to remove a dangerously steep hill. The realignment will occur between the Lumby access road turnoff and the Little East River bridge utilizing an abandoned roadway (Figure 6). It may, however, necessitate removal of some campsites in Lumby Campground already discussed in Section 10.1.

10.5 Recreation Facilities

The beaches at the south end of Arrowhead Lake will continue to be the main bathing areas of the Park. Sand will be added from a source outside the Park, when and where necessary to maintain sand sufficient for dry beach activities.

A creative playground will be constructed of natural materials such as wood, logs and hemp rope. The play areas will be designed in a linked configuration containing a series of climbing apparatus, balance beam, obstacles, unconventional swings and slides, which will activate the communicative, emotional and physical attributes of a child.

Due to the tremendous increase of cross-country skiers, more trails will be to be added to the existing trail system on acquired land (Figure 7).

When the all-season visitor centre complex is designed, the skating rink will be moved to an area directly south to the proposed centre. The toboggan/tubing hill will also be relocated south of the skating area.

10.6 Visitor Service Centre

An all-season visitor service centre will be built in the day use area south of Arrowhead Lake (Figure 6). The centre will be used year-round and therefore will be well insulated.

The exterior will be designed to blend with the natural surroundings. Large windows, where appropriate, will allow as much natural light as possible to enter the building. Large doors will facilitate the movement of over-sized panels and displays into and out of the building. Washrooms incorporated inside the building will provide sanitary facilities required for the building.

The operation of a snack bar within the building will be for fast food service only. No camping supplies will be sold, thus eliminating a "park store". An outdoor counter is desirable but not essential.

The centre will act as a disembarkation point, information, administrative, interpretative centre, and a warm-up centre for cross-country skiing and other winter activities.

The centre will also incorporate the outdoor amphitheatre (Figure 6). This will include an outdoor stage, rear screen projection room and a small room to house audio and visual equipment.

11.0 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The management plan will be reviewed not less than every 10 years following its approval and as the need arises. Data collection and environmental monitoring will be conducted regularly.

Below is a list of projects that have been previously described in this plan. This list appears in chronological order according to the individual project priority. The number of projects to be

completed or partially completed will be based upon the availability and allocation of each year's capital funding.

Priority Rating	Project Description
1	Add showers to existing comfort stations.
2	Upgrade vault privies a) install flush-o-matics b) add vanities and electricity where possible c) add demand hot water systems where possible.
3	Vegetation Management Plan
4	Fisheries Management Plan
5	Acquire additional property identified in 6.0 "Park Boundary".
6	Develop Arrowhead Lake Day Use Area a) parking lots b) new road - 550m c) rehabilitation of replaced facilities d) landscape.
7	Expand ski trail system.
8	Build new campground office complex for Roe and East River Campgrounds. a) remove old one at Mayflower Lake
9	Construct Main Entrance Complex a) new road b) parking lot at Mayflower Lake day use area c) rehabilitate closed road sections.
10	Redevelop and realign Park's Main Access Road.
11	Site Rehabilitation and Development Plans for East River, Roe and Lumby Campgrounds.
12	Construct Group Campground - 2 sites - parking and sanitary facilities
13	Build Visitor Centre at Arrowhead Lake Day use Area a) building b) amphitheatre c) equipment and displays d) hydro e) water and sewage.
14	Market Management Plan
15	Construct Creative Playground a) site preparation b) structure.
16	Reorganize road system in Lumby Campground a) new roads b) new campsites c) rehabilitate closed roads and campsites.
17	Build new campground office complex for Lumby Campground
18	Construct walk-in campsites around Little Arrowhead Lake a) trail b) campsites.

12.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A preliminary management plan was written and made available to park visitors, adjacent landowners and local township offices to be reviewed and commented on. Very few comments were received. Most are in agreement of what was being proposed.

13.0 REFERENCES

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